RBI plan for sick industrial units

774. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has prepared a stringent plan to stop Banks from being converted into 'nursing homes' for sick industrial units; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Apart from guidelines/instructions issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from time to time, which, *inter alia*, include instructions that banks should undertake viability studies in regard to sick units and only the potentially viable units should be taken up for rehabilitation, RBI has not prepared any stringent plan in regard to banks extending asssistance to sick industrial units.

Rules regarding premature retirement ment of officers in the State Bank of India

775. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTHY:
SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rules in the State Bank of India in regard to the premature retirement of its officers;

(b) whether the policy of the State Bank of India is in consonance with the general policy of Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) In accordance with the existing rules of State Bank of India, an officer of the bank may be prematurely retired at the discretion of the Executive committee of the Central Board of the bank after he has attained 50 years of age or has completed 25 years of service, or 25 years Pensionable Service as the case may be by giving him 3 months notice in writing or pay in lieu thereof.

(b) The policy of the State Bank of India is generally in consonance with the policy of the Government in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

Steps to intensify anti-smuggling activities

776. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some fresh steps have recently been initiated by Government to intensify anti-smuggling activities in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether a proposal to reward Customs Officials on the basis of their performance is being mooted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Government have taken various measures to further intensify the anti-smuggling activities in the country. Apart from the augmentation of man-power and equipment, the reward policy was also rationalised. The Government have also decided to set up a Central Economic Intelligence Bureau to deal with all economic offences including smuggling, in a more co-ordinated manner.